

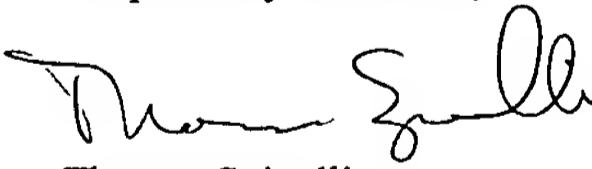
REMARKS

In the Notice of Omitted Items, it is stated that Figs. 18-20 described in the specification are missing from the application. In response, Applicants respectfully submit Figs. 18-20 herewith. Applicants respectfully submit that the figures were inadvertently omitted from the present application.

Applicants respectfully submit that this application is a continuation of U.S. Application No. 09/727,876, filed on Dec. 1, 2000, in which Figs. 18-20 are included. Additionally, the present application claims the benefit of Japanese Application No. H11-368189, filed on December 24, 1999, the contents of which are incorporated by reference in the present application. Japanese Application No. H11-368189 clearly shows Figs. 18-20; therefore, Applicants respectfully request that the attached figures be entered into the present application.

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes that a telephone conference with Applicants' attorney would be advantageous to the disposition of this case, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,



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